IN THE SPECIFICATION

[0021] Figure 3A shows a second embodiment valve plate 52, having a discharge port 54 extending between ends 55 and 53. The valve seat 56 is positioned adjacent the end 55. There is an increased area shown at 57 in the Figure 3A which acts on the valve 58. As can be appreciated from Figure 3B, the shape of the valve seat 56 differs markedly from the shape of the discharge port 54. Thus, there is a significant increase in the area through which a fluid acts on the valve 58 to open the valve with only a small increase in the flow losses. The shape shown in Figure 3B is a preferred shape with ears 56 at each side of the port 54 defining additional flow areas 57. While this shape is shown, other shapes such as ovals, rectangles, etc., may also be utilized. The ears 56 can be seen to be symmetric about a central plane that could be defined through the valve seat.